

In Letter To Supporters & Friends Announces "I will be a candidate for Congress in Iowa's New Third Congressional District in 2012"

Press Release | April 15, 2011

Des Moines, IA - Iowa Congressman Tom Latham released the following letter he sent to friends and supporters on Friday announcing his political future:

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your dedication, support and hard work on behalf of the great State of Iowa, the Republican Party and common-sense candidates at every level of government. It is heartening to see the positive changes that are taking place in Iowa and in Washington, thanks in large part to your efforts in the successful elections of 2010.

Spending binges, massive debt, deficits and failed government stimulus experiments have left our country in a dire situation that continues to require tough choices. Even after only a few short months, it is clear that the status quo of the past few years in Des Moines and Washington is over.

In the Iowa Capitol, the Governor's office and the United States Congress, the rush down the path of unsustainable spending, stifling economic mandates and overregulation has been reversed, putting us on a path back towards fiscal sanity. I know that Governor Branstad, Republicans in the Iowa Statehouse and Republicans in Congress are as committed as I am to changing the culture of the recent past. We are committed to addressing our nation's fiscal challenges by ending the spending binges to give Iowa and American families, farms and businesses the economic certainty they need and deserve to get our economy moving again.

There is no doubt that still too many Iowans wake up each day with their hearts and minds burdened with deep uncertainty as America works to recover from one of the most difficult economic periods in our lifetimes. We must all be committed to working for and finding real solutions that will help - not hinder - Iowa main streets, farms and families to bring long-term growth to our economy and job market.

I am energized and dedicated to working hard to find common-sense solutions to the many challenges we face in Iowa and America because I know that the next generation of Americans deserves nothing less than a total commitment from us. Our nation's future depends on the actions we take today. Kathy and I have all the hopes and prayers any parent and grandparent has for the safety and success of future generations. That's what keeps me motivated to work every single day I am on this earth to preserve, protect and expand the promise of the American Dream for every one of our country's children and grandchildren.

As you know, Governor Branstad has announced that he will sign the state legislature's approved redistricting map for the State of Iowa. This new map significantly alters the Congressional boundaries for the 2012 general election.

I have never let map boundaries block the great honor I have felt in representing the interests of all Iowans in the United States Congress. And, after thoughtful discussions with my family, friends and supporters over the past two weeks, I am writing to share with you my decision that I will be a candidate for Congress in Iowa's new Third Congressional District in 2012. (This district includes Adair, Adams, Cass, Dallas, Fremont, Guthrie,

Madison, Mills, Montgomery, Page, Polk, Pottawattamie, Ringgold, Taylor, Union and Warren Counties.)

This election is over a year-and-a-half away and I assure you that the time for campaigns and politics is not now - it is in the distant future. More important than any campaign or election ahead is the work I and others will be doing in the coming weeks and months to ensure the economic, health and retirement security of all Americans. Our top priorities must be promoting policies that protect and grow jobs in Iowa, rein in government debt and spending, and protect the promise of the American Dream for current and future generations.

I look forward to talking with you in the near future to discuss this decision and personally ask for your support of this decision. In the meantime, please be assured that I will continue to do what I have always done during my service to Iowans in Congress - making sure that I actively listen to your voice, your opinions and your ideas. I have always held the belief that if more of our government's leaders in Washington, Iowa and at the local level actually listened to and worked with the people they represent, we would accomplish so much more as a whole.

Working together I know that our great state's and nation's best days lie ahead.

Sincerely,
Tom Latham